

1 4. (Amended) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 1 wherein two to four condensation stages are provided with a
3 rectification interposed between each of said condensation stages.

1 5. (Amended) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 1, wherein all or part of the condensate of the last condensation stage is
3 recycled to the evaporator.

1 7. (Amended) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 1 wherein the condensate is fed into the evaporator above the liquid level
3 of the bottoms product.

1 8. (Amended) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 1 wherein the condensate is introduced into and mixed with the bottoms
3 product and the mixture is introduced into the evaporator.

1 9. (Amended) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 1, additionally comprising means for actively directing the bottoms
3 product through the condenser.

1 11. (Amended) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 1 comprising a pre-vacuum pump in addition to the concentration means.

1 13. (Amended) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 1, comprising a means on the distillate side for depositing solid and/or
3 liquid components entrained by the overhead product during flash evaporation.

1 16. (Amended) A process according to claim 14, wherein two
2 condensation steps are carried out in step c) starting from binary solutions and

3 wherein at least part of the condensate of the second stage is recycled to the
4 bottoms product.

1 17. (Amended) A process according to claim 14, wherein the
2 condensate is recycled in such an amount that the water/alcohol ratio of the
3 solution in the bottoms product remains constant.

1 18. (Amended) A process according to claim 14, wherein the
2 bottoms product is distilled by flash evaporation.

1 19. (Amended) A process according to claim 14 including the
2 steps of concentrating aqueous ethanolic plant drug extracts having an ethanol
3 content of at least 20 vol.-%.

1 Claim 20 has been cancelled

1 Claim 21 has been cancelled

1 22. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 2, wherein the condenser is positioned in such way that the bottoms
3 product serves as a heat carrier liquid for the condenser before being recycled
4 to the evaporator.

1 23. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 2, wherein two to four condensation stages are provided with a
3 rectification interposed between each of said condensation stages.

1 24. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 3, wherein two to four condensation stages are provided with a
3 rectification interposed between each of said condensation stages.

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1 25. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 2, wherein all or part of the condensate of the last condensation stage is
3 recycled to the evaporator.

1 26. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 3, wherein all or part of the condensate of the last condensation stage is
3 recycled to the evaporator.

1 27. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 4, wherein all or part of the condensate of the last condensation stage is
3 recycled to the evaporator.

1 28. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 2, wherein the condensate is fed into the evaporator above the liquid
3 level of the bottoms product.

1 29. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 3, wherein the condensate is fed into the evaporator above the liquid
3 level of the bottom product.

1 30. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 4, wherein the condensate is fed into the evaporator above the liquid
3 level of the bottoms product.

1 31. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 5, wherein the condensate is fed into the evaporator above the liquid
3 level of the bottoms product.

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1 32. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 6, wherein the condensate is fed into the evaporator above the liquid
3 level of the bottoms product.

1 33. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 2, wherein the condensate is introduced into and mixed with the bottoms
3 product and the mixture is introduced into the evaporator.

1 34. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 3, wherein the condensate is introduced into and mixed with the bottoms
3 product and the mixture is introduced into the evaporator.

1 35. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 4, wherein the condensate is introduced into and mixed with the bottoms
3 product and the mixture is introduced into the evaporator.

1 36. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 5, wherein the condensate is introduced into and mixed with the bottoms
3 product and the mixture is introduced into the evaporator.

1 37. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation plant according to
2 claim 6, wherein the condensate is introduced into and mixed with the bottoms
3 product and the mixture is introduced into the evaporator.

1 38. (Newly Added) A vacuum distillation according to claim
2 7, wherein the condensate is introduced into and mixed with the bottoms
3 product and the mixture is introduced into the evaporator.

1 39. (Newly Added) A process according to claim 15, wherein
2 two condensation steps are carried out in step c) starting from binary solutions

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3 and wherein at least part of the condensate of the second stage is recycled to
4 the bottoms product.

1 40. (Newly Added) A process according to claim 15, wherein
2 the condensate is recycled in such an amount that the water/alcohol ratio of the
3 solution in the bottoms product remains constant.

1 41. (Newly Added) A process according to claim 16, wherein
2 the condensate is recycled in such an amount that the water/alcohol ratio of the
3 solution in the bottoms product remains constant.

1 42. (Newly Added) A process according to claim 15, wherein
2 the bottoms product is distilled by flash evaporation.

1 43. (Newly Added) A process according to claim 16, wherein
2 the bottoms product is distilled by flash evaporation.

1 44. (Newly Added) A process according to claim 17, wherein
2 the bottoms product is distilled by flash evaporation.

1 45. (Newly Added) A process according to claim 15,
2 including the steps of concentrating aqueous ethanolic plant drug extracts
3 having an ethanol content of at least 20 vol.-%.

1 46. (Newly Added) A process according to claim 16,
2 including the steps of concentrating aqueous ethanolic plant drug extracts
3 having an ethanol content of at least 20 vol.-%.

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1 47. (Newly Added) A process according to claim 17,
2 including the steps of concentrating aqueous ethanolic plant drug extracts
3 having an ethanol content of at least 20 vol.-%.

1 48. (Newly Added) A process according to claim 18,
2 including the steps of concentrating aqueous ethanolic plant drug extracts
3 having an ethanol content of at least 20 vol.-%.

1 49. (Newly Added) A process according to claim 14,
2 including the step of concentrating aqueous ethanolic plant drug extracts
3 having an ethanol content of from 30 to 70 vol.-%.

ABSTRACT:

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abstract which is attached as a separate sheet:

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